POLYCARPON TETRAPHYLLUM (CARYOPHYLLACEAE) NEW TO THE FLORA OF LOUISIANA

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ABSTRACT

Four-leaved manyseed (*Polycarpon tetraphyllum* an annual species in the Caryophyllaceae is reported new to the Louisiana flora.

RESUMEN

Polycarpon tetraphyllum es una especie anual de Caryophyllaceae que se cita como nueva para la flora de Louisiana.

Four-leaved manyseed—*Polycarpon tetraphyllum* (L.) L.—also known as four-leaved allseed, is an annual member of the Caryophyllaceae. It is characterized by mostly whorled leaves, keeled sepals 1.5–2.5 mm long, and stipules 1.8–2.8 mm long (Thieret & Rabeler 2005). The other species of *Polycarpon* in the US is California manyseed (*P. depressum* Nutt.) with opposite not whorled leaves, flat sepals 1–1.5 mm long, and stipules 0.4–1.2 mm long. Four-leaved manyseed is a native of the Mediterranean region of southern Europe and has been introduced into Ala., Calif., Fla., Ga., Ore., S.C., and Tex. in the United States and also British Columbia (Thieret & Rabeler 2005; USDA NRCS 2010). There are also historic records from Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. It is not listed for Louisiana by Thomas and Allen (1996) nor in the Plants database (USDA NRCS 2010) so our collection is apparently the first for the state.

Voucher specimens: **LOUISIANA. Vernon Parish:** equipment parking lot on Fort Polk behind Bldg 2529 off 23rd Street, 480028 3432868, 27 May 2010, *Allen et al. 21944* (BRIT, FTPK).

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